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News from the Teaching and Learning Centre

January 2021

Dear <<First Name>>

A few important items in this newsletter:

- Don't miss the first science education leadership webinar to be held on February 12.
- Visit and bookmark the new Teaching and Learning website.
- Browse the new website with Indigenous science resources.
- An invitation to contribute to a PhD project on experiences and perceptions of biomedical science educators who completed a Graduate Certificate in Higher Education.

As usual, we welcome your contributions of articles, and pointers to conferences and publications that may be of interest to the readership.

Best regards

Cristina Varsavsky



Science education leadership webinar coming up

Don't miss the next ACDS Science Education Leadership Webinar:

Theme: Future proofing curriculum quality of degrees through team-based scholarship

Time: Friday February 12, 2.00 to 4.00pm AEDT

Presenters:

- Associate Professor Tina Acuña, Associate Dean Learning and Teaching Performance, College of Sciences and Engineering, University of Tasmania (joint Convenor).
- Dr Jo-Anne Kelder, Adjunct Senior Researcher, College of Sciences and Engineering, University of Tasmania (joint Convenor)
- Professor Amanda Able, Deputy Dean (Learning and Teaching), Faculty of Sciences, University of Adelaide
- Dr Bonnie McBain, sessional academic and Conjoint Fellow, School of Environmental and Life Sciences, University of Newcastle
- Dr Demelza Ireland, Head of the School of Biomedical Sciences Education Unit, University of Western Australia

The Australian Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA) released [a discussion paper](#) late last year entitled *Making and assessing claims of scholarship and scholarly activity*. The discussion paper is part of TEQSA's review of its [Guidance Note on Scholarship](#) which is its main instrument for assessing claims of scholarship and scholarly activity. This is part of a long term process of TEQSA tightening up its oversight of scholarship in teaching in Australian tertiary institutions.

The inaugural ACDS Fellows, Jo-Anne Kelder and Tina Acuña, will briefly describe how the Curriculum

share their experiences on implementing the CER framework at their institutions. This will be followed by a breakout session, led by the panellists, who will facilitate a discussion on the ACDS submission to the TEQSA discussion paper and implementing the CER framework.

To be part of the Webinar on Friday February 12 please [Register here](#)

See further information about the [Science Education Leadership Webinar series](#), including recordings of past webinars.



New ACDS Teaching and Learning website

The Teaching and Learning Centre now has a new home on the ACDS website: [Check it out!](#)

You can access ACDS Teaching and Learning news, events, and resources through navigation menu at the top, or by clicking on the relevant hexagon at the bottom of the page.

This may be a good opportunity to navigate through the wealth of teaching and learning resources developed over the years by the community of Australian science educators with the support of the ACDS.



Indigenous science website goes live

Indigenous Science is an area of increasing interest for scientific and cultural understanding, and as a mechanism for empowering Australia's diverse first nations peoples. After centuries with little positive attention to Indigenous science, the recognition and interest are very welcome for most. However, great care needs to be taken to ensure educational resources are made and shared in consultation with experts in a culturally respectful manner. Central to this is that perspectives and pedagogies of Australia's first peoples should be respected. All non-Indigenous educators working in this space should actively seek out robust cultural competency training, read and watch material generated by experts with cultural relevance, and work at building relationships with local groups. Almost all universities have an Indigenous Engagement office and it is important to seek out the relevant representatives so they can also guide your work. It is also important to keep in mind the following quote. By adding content alone we risk adding nothing if the content is abstracted from the Indigenous perspective and the complex, interdisciplinary nature of Indigenous knowledges.

The ACDS funded a project, led by Angela Ziebell, to collate, curate and share resources and good practices in this area. We are pleased to announce that the website is now live to support educators in the integration of Indigenous perspectives into the science curriculum. We hope you find it useful. See the Indigenous science resources [here](#). Further contributions to this website are welcome.

The Graduate Certificate in Higher Education: more than just a tick box?

A PhD project led by Isabelle Lys seeks to understand individual experiences and perceptions of the Graduate Certificate in Higher Education (GCHE) by teaching focused Biomedical Science academic staff at selected Australian universities in Queensland. The aim of this project is to understand teaching focused Biomedical Science academic staff's participation, expectations and experiences of the GCHE upon completion. This will enable feedback to higher education organisations regarding future development and efficacy of the GCHE in staff development.

Isabelle will be recruiting and interviewing Biomedical Science academic staff who have previously

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